

# REPORT / RECOMMENDATION



**To:** Mayor and City Council

**Agenda Item #:** VIII. A.

**From:** Ann Kattreh  
Parks and Recreation Director

**Date:** August 5, 2013

**Subject:** Priority Use Policy Braemar Arena

**Action** ☒

**Discussion** ☐

**Information** ☐

## **Action Requested:**

Approve Proposed Priority Use Policy at Braemar Arena

## **Information / Background:**

Braemar Arena has been the home to the Braemar City of Lakes Figure Skating Club (BCLFSC) and the Edina Hockey Association (EHA) since opening in 1967. Over the years, the demand to rent ice time at the arena has grown and the demand for prime season ice has also consistently been stretched to its limit. While Braemar Arena is currently able to meet nearly 100% of ice needs for BCLFSC, it is only able to meet less than 50% of the ice needs for the EHA.

On August 21, 2012 the City Council directed staff to prepare a recommendation for a new priority use policy to govern the distribution of ice time at Braemar Arena. Currently, no such policy exists and is the only facility utilized by youth athletic associations that operate without an agreement. Ice time at the arena is distributed based on the City's relationship with the School District, its historic relationships with the Braemar City of Lakes Figure Skating Club and the Edina Hockey Association, and the need for ice time for its own recreational programming.

The purpose of the priority use policy is to provide a rational basis for the distribution of a limited resource. In the case of the city's recreational facilities, that resource is private use time at the facility. At other municipal recreational facilities, the city bases its priority use policies on the residency of the user group. If there are multiple groups vying for the same resource, the city has established policies that give preference to the group that meets a minimum threshold for the residency of the participants in that group.

With the exception of the Edina Aquatic Center, that residency threshold is 90%. If there are multiple groups competing for the same resource, the group that meets the 90% residency threshold earns the "recognized association" designation, which means that group will have first preference to reserve the time it needs at the recreational facility in question before non-recognized groups are given the opportunity to reserve time.

As staff began the process of preparing a priority use policy for Braemar Arena, we were confronted with a set of facts that would make the composition of a principled priority use policy very challenging. The only youth sports association that meets the city's customary threshold for participant residency at the arena is the Edina Hockey Association (EHA). There is no dispute that the EHA's residency threshold exceeds the customary 90% threshold in order to become the recognized association at Braemar Arena. The other historic youth sports tenant at Braemar - the Braemar City of Lakes Figure Skating Club (BCLFSC) - has a residency percentage of below 50%, which is below the residency of any other recognized youth sports association, including the Edina Swim Club at the Edina Aquatic Center.

The challenge confronted by staff then was to create a principled priority use policy that would provide bona fide priority access to the recognized association (EHA), while also recognizing the 40+ year relationship between the City of Edina and the BCLFSC by providing some baseline level of reserved ice time for the BCLFSC in order for the club to sustain its programs and services its Edina residents and participants.

There are a number of fundamental assumptions that are implicit in the staff's recommended priority use policy for Braemar Arena. Before we explain the proposed policy, it's important that Council Members recognize these assumptions.

- Staff has assumed this new priority use policy would cause both groups (EHA and BCLFSC) to change their customary ways of doing business at Braemar.
- The most desirable category of ice time at Braemar Arena is referred to as "Prime Season-Prime Time". Demand for this category of ice exceeds its supply. The proposed priority use policy must create a specific protocol for the distribution of this category of ice.
- We also assumed that because the City Council has previously supported the use of participant residency as the key metric in priority use policies at other recreational facilities, the Council would support the use of that metric at Braemar Arena as well.
- We have also assumed that while Council wants a principled priority use policy at Braemar Arena, the Council would prefer a policy that does not eliminate figure skating from Braemar Arena in the future.
- Finally, because the implementation of any new priority use policy at Braemar Arena that is based primarily on participant residency is going to mean that EHA will receive more ice time than it has historically and that BCLFSC will receive less prime time ice than it has historically, the Council would prefer an implementation that is phased in rather than one that is implemented fully in year one.

Throughout staff's discussions with the EHA and BCLFSC, we have focused on the concept of the "carve out" to discuss how we could develop a principled priority use policy that also preserves access to the arena for the BCLFSC. The carve out concept, essentially, applies the new priority use policy to the arena, except for a number of specifically designated days and times of each week that are carved out of the time that is subject to the new policy. The carved out time would be reserved for the BCLFSC, but it would not be the only time available to them. They would have the ability to purchase additional prime and non-prime time ice as it becomes available.

Over the past ten days, city staff (City Manager Scott Neal, Braemar Arena General Manager Susie Miller and Parks and Recreation Director Ann Kattreh) hosted three meetings, each with three representatives

from the EHA and the BCLFSC to work towards a solution for the priority access agreement and ice allocation at the Arena. At the end of the third meeting we were unable to reach an agreement that was acceptable to both the EHA and BCLFSC. Consistent with the message to the EHA and BCLFSC at the start of the process, if the group could not reach consensus on a draft priority use policy for the arena, city staff would draft one unilaterally and submit it to the Council at the August 5 meeting for consideration and possible adoption. Because we could not reach a consensus on a priority use agreement, the staff's proposed priority use policy below does not have the support of expressed support of either the EHA or the BCLFSC.

#### Recommended Braemar Arena Priority Use Policy

The following is the staff's proposed priority use policy for Braemar Arena. In addition to establishing priority categories, the proposal also describes the transition for implementing the policy in the East Arena.

### **Prime Season Priority Access – September 16 – March 15**

Priority #1 – All city sponsored activities, programs, classes and open skate times. Reservations for city functions may be taken at any time for any date. City functions may pre-empt lower priority reservations at the discretion of the Director of Parks and Recreation. There will be no rental fees charged for city reservations.

Priority #2 – Edina High School Boys and Girls Hornets Hockey Team.

Priority #3 – Edina Hockey Association.

Priority #4 – Braemar City of Lakes Figure Skating Club.

BCLFSC will receive priority access to the East arena during the below scheduled times:

#### 2013-2014 Season – Priority Access – (582 hours)

Monday	3 p.m. – 10 p.m.
Tuesday	3 p.m. – 7:50 p.m.
Wednesday	3 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
Thursday	3 p.m. – 6:50 p.m.
Friday	3 p.m. – 4:40 p.m.
Saturdays rotating schedule: A – 7-10 a.m.; B – 1-4 p.m.; C 7-10 p.m.	
Sundays rotating schedule: 11:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.	

*38 hours specifically identified by BCLFSC as times Synchronized team will not be using*

#### 2014-2016 Seasons – Priority Access - (450 Hours)

Monday – Friday: 5 a.m.- 5:50 p.m.	
Saturdays rotating schedule: A – 7-10 a.m.; B – 1-4 p.m.; C 7-10 p.m.	
Sundays rotating schedule: A – 7-8 a.m.; B – Noon-1 p.m.; C 9-10 p.m.	

#### On Going Priority Access (241 Hours)

Monday, Wednesday and Friday	5 a.m. - 5:50 p.m.
Tuesday and Thursday	5 a.m. – 3:50 p.m.
Saturdays rotating schedule: A – 7-10 a.m.; B – 1-4 p.m.; C 7-10 p.m.	

Priority #5 – Organizations and leagues that have previously rented ice from the City of Edina on good terms.

Priority #6 – New organizations and leagues.

Braemar Arena reserves the right to restrict priority access of all groups when the facility is needed for a large event such as tournaments, shows or competitions. Braemar will notify users as soon as possible.

**Non-Prime Season Priority Access – March 16 – September 15**

Priority #1 – All city sponsored activities, programs, classes and open skate times. Reservations for City functions may be taken at any time for any date. City functions may pre-empt lower priority reservations at the discretion of the Director of Parks and Recreation. There will be no rental fees charged for city reservations.

Priority #2 – Braemar City of Lakes Figure Skating Club in the East Arena and Velocity Training Center in the West Arena

Priority #3 – Edina Hockey Association.

Priority #4 – Organizations and leagues that have previously rented ice from the City of Edina on good terms.

Priority #5 – New organizations and leagues.

Braemar Arena reserves the right to restrict priority access of all groups when the facility is needed for a large event such as tournaments, shows or competitions. Braemar will notify users as soon as possible.

As staff and representatives from the respective organizations discussed the terms of the possible priority use policy, we discussed several alternatives for distributing the Prime Season-Prime Time Hours. The following chart describes the alternatives we have developed:

	EHA HOURS	BCLFSC HOURS
Current Schedule (approx.)	2000	700
6/11/13 Staff recommendation to the Park Board: Based on participant pro rata for September 16 – March 15	2368	229
7/16/13 Staff recommendation to City Council: Hours based on 6/11/13 staff recommendation Park Board to transition to participant pro rata	2250	450 (Flexible Scheduling) -hours for tournament/holidays
Residency Pro Rata*	2576	124
Participant Pro Rata#	2458	241
7/26/2013 EHA/BCLFSC Meeting – Staff Recommendation Year 1 Year 2 and Beyond – To be determined	2250	450

<b>7/29/2013 EHA/BCLFSC Meeting – Staff Recommendation</b>		
Year 1 <sup>1</sup>	2118	582
Year 2 <sup>2</sup>	2250	450
Year 3 <sup>3</sup>	2401	299
Year 4 <sup>4</sup>	2458	241
<b>8/5/2013 Staff Recommendation</b>		
Year 1 <sup>1</sup>	2118	582
Year 2 <sup>2</sup>	2250	450
Year 3 <sup>2</sup>	2250	450
Year 4 <sup>4</sup>	2458	241

*Hours reflected above are prime time, prime season hours defined as September 16 – March 15, 3 p.m. – 10 p.m.*

*Monday - Friday and 7 a.m. – 10 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday*

*\* 1308 EHA resident athletes; 64 BCLFSC resident athletes*

*# 1316 total EHA athletes; 130 BCLFSC athletes*

*<sup>1</sup> Based on 118 hours proposed by BCLFSC (7/26/13) to be cut*

*<sup>2</sup> Staff recommendation from 7/16/13 City Council Meeting*

*<sup>3</sup> Staff recommendation from the 7/16/13 City Council Meeting minus Saturdays and Sundays*

*<sup>4</sup> Participant pro rata*

#### Current Conditions

The BCLFSC currently has a set schedule of ice rental in the East Arena. That schedule is as follows:

Club: Mon–Fri 3–6:50 p.m.; Sat 7:30–10:20 a.m.; Sun 10:30–11:30 a.m.

Synchronized Skating Team Hours: Mon 7-10 p.m., Tues 7-7:50 p.m., Wed 7–9:30 p.m. and Sun 11:40 a.m.–4:25 p.m.

BCLFSC adjusts their regular ice time rental schedule for the following prime season tournaments: Cake Eater Classic (Thanksgiving), Invitational Tournament (New Year's Day), O'Connor Tournament (2<sup>nd</sup> week in February), and a shortened schedule during the Reimann Tournament (2<sup>nd</sup> week in January). During the Non-Prime Season a shortened schedule has been made for the Youth State Hockey Tournament, the Minnesota High Performance 15's and two additional youth tournaments in May.

In order to assist BCLFSC with the proposed transition, city staff would assist BCLFSC with securing ice time at other facilities in block scheduling that would allow BCLFSC to operate its programs and services. Staff have confirmed with the US Figure Skating Association that the BCLFSC can skate at arenas (there is no minimum number of hours required at their home arena) other than its home arena without jeopardizing arenas its club status with the US Figure Skating Association. While it is true that BCLFSC would need approval of a home figure skating club if they chose to skate at an arena that already has a home club, there are nearby ice arenas (Richfield, Hopkins, St. Louis Park) that do not have home figure skating clubs that could accommodate BCLFSC's needs for ice time.

Braemar Arena will continue to support BCLFSC efforts to secure large events and to host the Annual Ice Show, Braemar Competition, Holiday Exhibition, Testing and Midwest Regionals (January 28-31, 2015). BCLFSC will also maintain exclusive access to the club room, coach's room and head pro office and priority access to the ballet room.

A question has been raised by the BCLFSC concerning what they believe is a long term agreement they have with the City that was made during the planning process for the Hornets Nest project. Staff do not agree that such an agreement exists, although we do agree that such an agreement has been discussed. We have asked the City Attorney to opine on the matter. The purported agreement and the City Attorney's opinion letter are included as attachments to this report.

### Options

The Council has a number of options for this matter:

1. Do Nothing – The Council could decide to do nothing. There is no legal requirement to have a priority use agreement for city facilities. This option preserves the status quo for both the EHA and the BCLFSC in the East Arena.
2. Postpone the Decision – The Council could decide that a priority use agreement is necessary, but now is not the time to adopt one. You could table this decision until a future defined or undefined date.
3. Adopt the Staff Recommendation – If the Council decides that a priority use policy is necessary, and believe the staff recommendation is sufficient; the Council could adopt the proposed policy.
4. Adopt an Alternative Policy – The Council could decide that a priority use policy is necessary, but that staff have not presented a policy or rationale that seems fair or effective. In that case, the Council could develop its own alternative priority use policy for Braemar Arena.

### Recommendation

Staff recommend option 3. We understand that Council wishes to have a priority use policy in place at Braemar Arena. Given past Council actions at other City recreational facilities, as well as the other policy assumptions described previously in this report, staff believe our proposed policy is a fair method of distributing ice time at Braemar Arena.

### Attachments:

June, 11, 2013 Park Board Minutes

BCLFSC Board Resolution – August 21, 2012

City Attorney Opinion Letter – August 1, 2013

**APPROVED MINUTES  
OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
EDINA PARK BOARD  
HELD AT CITY HALL  
June 11, 2013  
7:00 PM**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Steel called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Answering roll call were Members Cella, Gieseke, Hulbert, Jacobson, Dan Peterson, Steel.  
Member Segreto arrived at 7:03 pm.

**III. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA**

Member Hulbert made a motion, seconded by Member Gieseke, approving the meeting agenda.  
Ayes: Members Cella, Gieseke, Hulbert, Jacobson, Dan Peterson, Steel.  
Motion Carried.

Chair Steel made a motion, seconded by Member Dan Peterson, to add one item to the agenda, the introduction of a new staff member.

Ayes: Members Cella, Gieseke, Hulbert, Jacobson, Dan Peterson, Steel.  
Motion Carried.

Member Dan Peterson made a motion, seconded by Member Hulbert to approve the revised meeting agenda.

Ayes: Members Cella, Gieseke, Hulbert, Jacobson, Dan Peterson, Steel.  
Motion Carried.

Member Segreto arrived at 7:03 pm.

**IV. ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Chair Steel made a motion, seconded by Member Dan Peterson, approving the consent agenda as follows:

**IV.A. Approval of Minutes – Regular Park Board Meeting of May 14, 2013**

Ayes: Members Cella, Gieseke, Hulbert, Jacobson, Dan Peterson, Segreto, Steel.  
Motion Carried.

**V. COMMUNITY COMMENT**

None.

**V.A. Introduction of New Staff Member**

Patty McGrath, Edinborough Park and Edina Aquatic Center Director, introduced herself and stated she began her position on March 19, 2013. She reported that her new position has been very exciting and the cool rainy weather has kept the pool very busy. She noted that her background includes a degree in recreational and leisure studies, with 23 years working for the YMCA at different locations. Her passion is facility management and operations, and she has had an aquatic background as well. Ms. McGrath noted the YMCA was a great training ground for different skills in terms of financial management and staff development. She encouraged the board to contact her with any needs.

Chair Steel wished her luck with the season ahead.

## **VI. REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **VI.A. Living Streets Update**

Assistant City Manager Karen Kurt and Paul Nelson, Chair of the Edina Transportation Commission and member of the subcommittee working on Living Streets, addressed the board. An overview of the current situation was provided. The city is responsible for 487 lane miles of roadway, which represents 27 million square feet of pavement. The cost to maintain a square foot of pavement is \$5 to \$9 per year (including the cost to reconstruct the road every 40 years). The city will likely replace 120 lane miles over the next decade.

Ms. Kurt noted that those roadways are the cause of some concerns from citizens, as the city receives 96 resident requests each year to look into traffic concerns. Most of those relate to bicycle or pedestrian safety. In the 2010 quality of life survey 37% residents identified speeding as a very serious or somewhat serious problem. One of the city's largest demographics is the over-65 population, and there is also a growing school-age population.

Ms. Kurt continued that roadways also contribute to storm water runoff which damages quality of area lakes. The city maintains a large amount of storm water sewer and those costs are increasing due to federal and state regulations related to watershed. The city will have to do business differently in the future to manage storm water runoff. The roads are subject to a wide variety of regulations and a guiding policy would be a way to wrap together and address all regulations before us.

Ms. Kurt stated that moving ahead, the city is considering the idea of Living Streets, which balance the needs of bicyclists, motorists, pedestrians and transit riders. Edina's Living Streets vision includes the following components: transportation utilizing all modes is equally safe and accessible; families regularly choose walking or bicycling instead of driving; streets enhance neighborhood character and community identity; streets are inviting places that encourage human interaction and physical activity; public policy strives to promote sustainability through balanced infrastructure investments; environmental stewardship and reduced energy consumption are pursued in public and private sectors alike; streets support vibrant commerce and add to the value of adjacent land uses. Some streets in Edina do have elements of Living Streets. One example is from 70<sup>th</sup> Street, which has a tree canopy, pedestrian lighting, sidewalks and boulevards, traffic calming and landscaping. Another example is Gallagher Dr., which has street furniture, trail, marked pedestrian crossing, landscaping and sidewalks. Another example is Tracy Avenue, which has parking bays, sidewalks, bump-out with rain garden, reduced lane width and a bike lane.

Ms. Kurt noted the policy application of living streets would extend to all city street construction or reconstruction projects; privately built streets, sidewalks, paths or trails; park paths or trails that connect to the right-of-way. Furthermore, Edina's framework will begin as a vision and goals, which is the Living Streets policy developed right now, with the goal of developing a Living Streets plan. The final component is a needs assessment.

Ms. Kurt reviewed the history of the Living Streets policy, beginning with the Council's resolution in support of the general concept in 2011, followed by a grant, and then the formation of an ETC committee. In 2012 a Living Streets workshop was held and this draft is being worked on right now in 2013, with visits to various boards and commissions to receive input. For phase 2, the Living Streets plan includes street design guidelines, sidewalks, bike facilities, traffic calming, streetscape, lighting, design process and resident engagement, connectivity guidelines. A new staff member has just been extended an offer of employment and this Living Streets policy will be a primary responsibility.



Ms. Kurt asked whether a Park Board member would like to serve on the committee going forward. She also stated that various policies, codes and practices will be looked at to ensure everything is in line with the vision of Living Streets.

Mr. Nelson asked for any input or comments or questions on the policy.

Member Segreto asked about the sidewalk component. She asked what the arterial and collector streets are. Mr. Nelson stated there are definitions for those streets. Additionally, they hope to get input of the new staff person to help define exactly where the sidewalks should go. Mainly it is the collector roads and major roads throughout the city. Some of the major roads do have sidewalks, but they need to be revamped to be safer.

Member Segreto stated some neighborhoods will easily step into the program, and yet other neighborhoods may not. Mr. Nelson agreed that some sidewalks will be difficult to add. There will be approximately \$2 million per year available to add sidewalks in the form of the new franchise fee. The Transportation Commission has looked at where they would like those, but they are waiting for the new staff person to help determine that. Road reconstruction projects will be looked at on an annual basis. Having the Living Streets policy in place will make it easier to determine which roads will have sidewalks.

Ms. Kurt stated some streets will not warrant sidewalks or bike lanes because of how they are used. That will be the case for most typical residential streets that have limited travel on them.

Member Gieseke stated there has been some road reconstruction already and there were special assessment costs for the sidewalks. He inquired whether they will be revisited now that the franchise fee will be in place. Mr. Nelson responded that if one of the streets becomes a major priority, such as an arterial or a collector road, then yes, it will be. However, the goal is to complete sidewalks at the time of the original project.

Member Gieseke noted some neighborhoods have stretches of sidewalks that are incomplete. Mr. Nelson stated there are some plans in some neighborhoods to add sidewalks where they were omitted in the original projects.

Member Dan Peterson stated one of the best things for traffic calming is the Police Department. He asked whether any suburbs have done well with sidewalk connectivity and if there is a model to follow. Mr. Nelson responded that Edina is not trying to follow anyone specifically; rather, the goal is to follow Edina's network of roads and get people from their neighborhoods to their destinations. A major project on France Avenue is beginning where lanes will be narrowed to calm traffic, along with the addition of sidewalks. There is no speed reduction right now, but the county is looking at that.

Member Dan Peterson stated Interlachen Boulevard is a good example of an area with good connectivity and no speeding.

Chair Steel asked whether there has been discussion about accessibility to parks via sidewalks because the policy only talks about every child's access to a school not a park.

Mr. Nelson stated last year the Countryside area of roads was done to get sidewalks to the park. The dollars were not in place to put the sidewalks in, but safe routes to parks is another emphasis in the Living Streets proposal.

Chair Steel asked about putting in a pedestrian bridge for the Richfield School District children to access Strachauer Park since the closest park is Rosland Park in that area. Mr. Nelson stated there are plans to improve the current bridge on the west side, which is a couple years away. A \$1 million grant for building a bridge over France Avenue was modified to allow funding to be used for crosswalks, which will provide better crossing for a lot more people.

Chair Steel thanked Mr. Nelson and Ms. Kurt for their help.

#### **VI.B. Braemar Arena Priority Use Policy**

Ms. Kattreh introduced Susie Miller, Braemar Arena General Manager, to speak on the issue of priority use.

Ms. Miller stated currently the Braemar Arena is operated without a priority access. At its August 21 meeting the City Council directed staff to create a priority access agreement. Before the Board tonight is a proposal based on equity of ice and number of programs served. There are five priorities included in the proposal. One priority is for all city-sponsored activities; priority two is Edina High School boys and girls hockey teams; priority three is recognized youth associations; priority four is adult leagues that are on good terms with the City of Edina; and priority five would be non-recognized resident or nonresident hockey and/or figure skating programs.

Ms. Miller discussed the residency requirements for recognized athletic associations. The current standard is 90% for the Edina youth athletic associations and 60% for the Edina Swim Club. Currently, the Edina Hockey Association (EHA) has 99.6% Edina residency, while the Braemar City of Lakes Figure Skating Club (BCLFSC) has 40% residents. Ms. Miller stated her recommendation is to continue to recognize EHA. She noted there is value in having the BCLFSC at Braemar.

Ms. Miller reviewed the redistribution proposal, based on number of participants and not on residency. With the same number of ice hours, hockey would receive 2,368 hours and the figure skaters would receive 229 hours for the 2013-2014 season. Those numbers are based on a calculation of 1.79 hours per participant. The EHA has 1,323 participants, and the BCLFSC has 128.

Ms. Miller noted that while formulating the proposal, she also looked at comparable programs in the Metro area. The EHA has ice time at other facilities, while the BCLFSC only has hours at Braemar. She also noted that Braemar is offering significantly more hours than neighboring cities.

Member Cella stated she received an unhappy email from the BCLFSC. She noted that cutting their ice time by 66% one year from now seems drastic. She encouraged the city to be fair. She also noted that the figure skaters paid their \$20 per head fee during the renovation of the Hornet's Nest.

Ms. Miller stated she understands that, and she did look at all different options. What she felt was fair to bring forward was the absolute equitable distribution of ice. However, adjustments can still be made to the policy. She noted there still will be ice available; it is just that families might have to travel a little bit. Member Cella stated Bloomington and Minnetonka skating clubs are not comparable, as they do not compete nationally and internationally.

Member Gieseke stated he agrees that a graduated schedule will be more equitable in order to allow the BCLFSC to find quality hours of ice time. He suggested a graduated schedule over four years might be helpful.

Chair Steel noted that the agreement does not have anything to do with hours other than priority use, and right now the BCLFSC is not a recognized association. She asked about the impact of ice time if the BCLFSC were to meet the residency requirement of 60%. Ms. Miller responded that the proposal does not take into account the residency at all, but rather participant numbers only.

Chair Steel stated that previously, a recommended priority use access agreement was formulated, and the BCLFSC was included as a recognized association. The recommendation was taken to the Council, and the BCLFSC was removed as a recognized association.

Member Jacobson asked if the figure skaters would only have nights to skate if the policy is implemented. Ms. Miller responded ice distribution would be a staff decision. She noted it is to Braemar's benefit that the figure skaters can skate right after school because they can arrive at 3 pm. She stated that she believes Braemar can come to an agreement with the BCLFSC. Perhaps they can also go to neighboring facilities to skate; they will have to be creative to find ice time.

Member Dan Peterson noted that the EHA residency is 100 percent, and the BCLFSC are 40 percent. He inquired where the other 60 percent of figure skaters come from. Ms. Miller stated the skaters are drawn from all over the Metro area.

Member Cella added that the BCLFSC attracts from all over the Metro because they compete at the international level. Ms. Kattreh also noted that staff looked at this policy as similar to the Edina Swim Club because they also draw from all over the Metro.

Chair Steel opened the meeting up for public comment at 7:44 pm.

Ron Green, 5725 Zenith Avenue South, president of EHA, stated there are 1,300 Edina youth residents playing hockey. Of the 1,300, 75% are boys and 25% are girls. There are currently 350 girls playing in the association, and they expect that number to grow dramatically. He noted that the association's issue is not enough ice. More than 50% of practices are at ice rinks other than Braemar; the association buys at least twice as much ice time at other rinks. He concluded that there is a lot of need for ice within the association.

Chair Steel closed the meeting for public comment at 7:46 pm.

#### **VI.C. Human Services Task Force Volunteer**

Ms. Kattreh stated the city annually appropriates \$80,000 from its general fund to pay human service agencies to provide outsourced services to Edina residents. The city is putting together a Human Services Task Force, and they are requesting a representative from the Park Board. She noted there are four date commitments to serve on the task force.

Member Segreto stated she served on the task force two years ago, and it was an insightful view into the community. She stated she will serve again.

**Chair Steel moved, seconded by Member Hulbert, to appoint Member Segreto as the Human Services Task Force Volunteer.**

Ayes: Members Cella, Gieseke, Hulbert, Jacobson, Dan Peterson, Segreto, Steel.

Motion Carried.

#### **VI.D. Grandview CAT Volunteer**

Chair Steel moved, seconded by Member Dan Peterson, to appoint Susan Jacobson to serve on Grandview CAT.

Ayes: Members Cella, Gieseke, Hulbert, Jacobson, Dan Peterson, Segreto, Steel.

Motion Carried.

## **VII. CORRESPONDENCE AND PETITIONS**

### **VII.A. Council Updates**

None.

## **VIII. CHAIR AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Chair Steel reported that the strategic planning subcommittee met last week with Members Deeds, Segreto and Cella all present. They discussed what they would like the consultant to work on and handed over the recommendations to staff, who is working on a draft RFP. Hopefully something will be ready for the Park Board next month.

Member Segreto asked about the gun policy in Edina parks, specifically concealed handguns.

Ms. Kattreh stated there is a policy against handguns at the enterprise facilities, but she is not sure about park policy and therefore will report back to the board at the next meeting.

## **IX. STAFF COMMENTS**

Ms. Kattreh stated the Edible Playground is constructed at Lewis Park. Additionally, the Countryside Shelter building has been torn down, and construction on the project will be starting next week. The Centennial Lakes farmers market starts this Thursday and runs from 3 to 7 p.m. Ms. Kattreh mentioned the update on the Sports Dome and athletic fields has been pushed back to the July Park Board meeting, when Bruce Locklear, Edina Public Schools principal, will also be present for the discussion.

Member Hulbert asked if the path was rerouted by the community garden. Ms. Kattreh responded affirmatively, noting the bids were opened for the parking lot today. A few contractual things will be worked out with the Y, and that will include the path.

Member Jacobson asked about the bids for Countryside and also inquired about the Golf Dome.

Ms. Kattreh stated she cannot remember the final cost offhand on the Countryside shelter building, but approximately \$200,000 was value engineered out of the project. She noted that \$100,000 alone was eliminated by cutting the in-floor heating system.

Ms. Kattreh stated construction on the Golf Dome began a few weeks ago and it looks to be on track for a November 1 opening. The foundation is being worked on right now.

Member Hulbert asked how much bigger the new Dome building will be. Ms. Kattreh responded that it will actually be a bit smaller, but will have a more efficient use of space and a much nicer building.

## **X. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Steel made a motion, seconded by Member Dan Peterson, to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

Ayes: Members Cella, Gieseke, Hulbert, Jacobson, Dan Peterson, Segreto, Steel.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

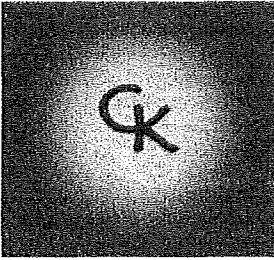
**RESOLUTIONS OF  
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF  
BRAEMAR-CITY OF LAKES FIGURE SKATING CLUB**

(August 21, 2012)

Braemar-City of Lakes Figure Skating Club (BCLFSC) supports the proposal to build the Hive at Braemar Arena and agrees to pay a \$20 user fee per year per skating participant for the 20-year life of the bonds so long as the City of Edina agrees to the following:

1. Provide BCLFSC priority scheduling for its current ice times in the East Arena which are:  
Mondays: 3-10pm; Tuesdays: 3-7:50pm; Wednesdays: 3-10pm; Thursdays: 3-6:50pm;  
Fridays: 3-6:50pm; Saturdays: 7:30-10:20am and Sundays 10:30am – 4:25pm, and
2. Provide BCLFSC priority scheduling of the West Arena for its Annual Ice Show, Braemar Competition, and Holiday Exhibition, and
  - a. Support BCLFSC's efforts to secure large events such as Nationals and Midwest Regional Competitions.
  - b. BCLFSC acknowledges and agrees that the EHA and Edina High School will also be able to schedule special events that may restrict ice availability for BCLFSC.
3. Provide BCLFSC access to the following spaces in the following manner:
  - a. Provide BCLFSC priority access to the ballet room with three-month's advance scheduling. The City of Edina will be responsible for cleaning and maintaining the ballet room.
  - b. Provide BCLFSC exclusive use to the club room, the head professional's office and the coach's room. BCLFSC will provide cleaning services for these spaces.
  - c. It is understood that the City of Edina reserves the right to charge a fee to the BCLFSC for exclusive use spaces after the 20 year bond surcharge is complete.

4. Within three years from the effective date of this agreement, the City Manager shall request City Council approval for the following improvements to be completed: (i) update the ballet room flooring with suspended wood flooring or suitable multi-purpose low-impact flooring and (ii) paint the East Arena. Within five years, The City Manager shall request City Council approval for the renovation of the East Arena bathroom facilities.



# CAMPBELL KNUTSON

Professional Association

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**Author's Direct Dial: (651) 234-6215**

**E-mail Address: [rknutson@ck-law.com](mailto:rknutson@ck-law.com)**

August 1, 2013

Thomas J. Campbell  
Roger N. Knutson  
Thomas M. Scott  
Dillon B. Kersch  
Paul J. Jannet  
Andrea McFarrell Poulter  
Soren M. Mordick  
John E. Kelly  
Henry A. Schaeffer, III  
Alex Schwane  
Samuel J. Edwards  
Margaret M. McFarren

Mr. Scott Neal, City Manager  
City of Edina  
4801 West 50<sup>th</sup> Street  
Edina, Minnesota 55424

Re: Braemar – City of Lakes Figure Skating Club

Dear Scott:

The figure skating club is arguing that it has a contract with the City concerning ice time and that the City therefore cannot unilaterally change its ice time. I disagree. The Club submitted to the City a resolution of its Board of Directors dated July 10, 2012. The resolution was discussed at the July 17, 2012 City Council meeting. The City Council did not agree to the terms of the resolution at its July 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. The Club then prepared a revised version of its July 10<sup>th</sup> resolution dated August 21, 2012. This resolution was not received by the City Council, was not voted upon by the City Council, and was not agreed to by the City Council. The Club did send in \$20 for each of its participants which was accepted by City staff, but the City has never agreed to the terms of either resolution. City Staff, including the City Manager, are not legally authorized to unilaterally bind the City to any such contract.

Very truly yours,

CAMPBELL KNUTSON  
Professional Association

BY:

Roger N. Knutson

RNK:rwg

1119 Campbell Law Firm  
Suite 102 - Dayton, MN 55424  
Tel: (651) 234-6215  
Fax: (651) 234-6215  
www.ck-law.com